

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7, 9-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yen et al. ("A Web-Based, Collaborative, Computer-Aided Sequential Control Design Tool", IEEE Control Systems Magazine, Vol. 23, No. 2, April 2003, pp. 14-19) in view of Lin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,980,211) and Jakatda et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0163295). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yen et al. ("A Web-Based, Collaborative, Computer-Aided Sequential Control Design Tool", IEEE Control Systems Magazine, Vol. 23, No. 2, April 2003, pp. 14-19) in view of Lin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,980,211), Jakatda et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0163295) and Schmidt et al. (US Patent No. 6,904,571). Claims 1, 11, 16 and 22 have been amended. No new matter has been added. For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

With regard to Claims 1, 16, and 22 the final Office Action stated that "Yen et al. disclose the establishing connection between the client and the server is part of the Web-based software design tool as further described on page 15, column 2, paragraphs 1-2 (see also Fig. 1); the displaying/choosing/modifying/analyzing of the schematic on the client is described on page 16 and illustrated in Fig.3, which allows the user to select/choose and place the circuit components and their wires (i.e., wiring component) to the desire location on the schematic as well as allowing the user to modify and re-simulate the schematic (i.e., analyze the modified schematic); thus making the wire components and the electrical component movable within the schematic as desired by the user/designer. However, Yen et al. failed to specifically teach that

each endpoint of the wire may be independently moved and further failed to teach specifically that the electrical and thermal simulation be performed on a computer that is different from the client. Lin et al. teach the use of endpoints or start points and their positions for defining interconnects or wirings, connecting the circuit component(s) in the schematic diagram in order to allow the schematic diagram to be edited and properly displayed (see col. 1, lines 32-54). Jakatdar et al. teach both electrical and thermal simulations that can be performed on different computers over the computer network (i.e., on computer that is different from the client) (see paragraphs [0036] and [0045]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to further incorporate the use of endpoints or start points and their positions as taught by Lin et al. into the method/system of Yen et al. because incorporation would allow the schematic diagram of Yen et al. to be properly edited and placed at the desired position. It would have been further obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention, to further adapt the method/system of Yen et al. in view of Lin et al. to perform the simulation (both electrical and thermal simulations) on different computers (i.e., on a computer that is different from the client) as further taught by Jakatdar et al. because such adaptation would further make better use of resources available on the computer network or internet as taught by Jakatdar et al. and as intended by Yen et al. (i.e., for greater collaboration) while still benefiting electrical and thermal simulations to ensure that the circuits perform their functions properly.” The Final Office Action also stated on page 8 “neither Yen et al. nor Lin et al. specifically teaches the electrical and thermal simulation that are performed on a computer that is different from the client, as now claimed. However, as given in the new rejection above as being necessitated by Applicant's amendment, Jakatda et al. (US Patent Application Publication No.

2003/0163295) both electrical and thermal simulations that can be performed on different computers over the computer network. It would have been further obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention, to further adapt the method/system of Yen et al. in view of Lin et al. to perform the simulation (both electrical and thermal simulations) on different computers (i.e., on a computer that is different from the client) as further taught by Jakatdar et al. because such 1 adaptation would further make better use of resources available on the computer network or Internet as taught by Jakatdar et al. and as intended by Yen et al. (i.e., for greater collaboration) while still benefiting electrical and thermal simulations to ensure that the circuits perform their functions properly.” In response, the Applicants have amended the independent claims to more clearly define the invention.

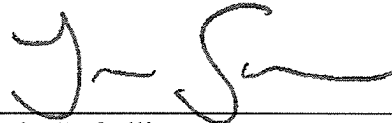
As amended, Claim 1 recites in part “automatically determining components for a circuit that is based on circuit requirements obtained from a user interface on the client; wherein thermally enabled components are identified as thermally enabled when presented on the client; generating the schematic for the circuit based on a selection of at least one of the determined components.” In contrast, the cited references do not teach or suggest generating a schematic after automatically determining components and identifying components on the client that are thermally enabled.” As such, claim 1 is proposed to be allowable. Claims 2-10 are proposed to be allowable as they depend from a valid base claim. Independent Claims 11, 16 and 22 have been similarly amended and are proposed to be allowable for at least the same reasons. Claims 12-15, 17-21 are proposed to be allowable as they depend from a valid base claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.



Timothy P. Sullivan
Registration No. 47,981
Direct Dial: 206.342.6254

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
206.342.6200

